

Claims 1 – 111 (cancelled)

1 **112. (previously amended)** Apparatus for responding to a request, the request including
2 one or more specifiers referring to objects belonging to a plurality thereof in a distributed
3 database system that includes a plurality of database systems and
4 the apparatus comprising:
5 a first database system of the plurality; and
6 a redirector which responds to the request when the request includes a specifier
7 that cannot be interpreted in the first database system by causing the request to be
8 executed at least in part in a second database system of the plurality, the request
9 otherwise being executed in the first database system.

1 **113. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 112 wherein:
2 the objects in the first database system include copies of objects contained
3 in at least one other database system belonging to the distributed database system.

1 **114. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 113 wherein:
2 the first database system functions as a cache with regard to the objects whose
3 copies are included in the first database system.

1 **115. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 113 wherein the
2 other database system is the second database system.

1 **116. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 115 wherein:
2 the first database system functions as a cache with regard to the second database
3 system.

1 **117. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with any one of claims 112
2 through 116 wherein:

3 the apparatus is local to a server of the type that provides a program executing on
4 the server with a standard interface for querying databases; and
5 the requests include queries received via the standard interface.

1 **118. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 117 wherein:

2 the server obeys the hypertext transfer protocol (http) and the program is a Web
3 application program.

1 **119. (previously amended)** A method of responding to a request, the request including
2 one or more specifiers that refer to one or more objects in a distributed database system
3 that includes a plurality of database systems and
4 the method comprising the steps of:

5 receiving the request in a first database system of the plurality;
6 determining whether the request includes a specifier that cannot be interpreted in
7 the first database system of the plurality; and
8 when the request includes such a specifier, causing the request to be executed at
9 least in part in a second database system of the plurality of database systems.

1 **120. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with claim 119 wherein:

2 the objects in the first database system include copies of objects contained in at
3 least one other database system belonging to the distributed database system,

4 whereby the first database system functions as a cache with regard to the objects whose
5 copies are included in the first database system.

1 **121. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with claim 120 wherein:
2 the other database system is the second database system,
3 whereby the first database system functions as a cache with regard to the second database
4 system.

1 **122. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with any one of claims 119
2 through 121 wherein:
3 the first database system is local to a server of the type that provides a program
4 executing on the server with a standard interface for querying databases; and
5 in the step of receiving the request, the request is received via the standard
6 interface.

1 **123. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with claim 122 wherein:
2 the server obeys the hypertext transfer protocol (http) and the program is a Web
3 application program.

1 **124. (previously amended)** A memory device characterized in that:
2 the memory device contains code which, when executed in a processor, performs
3 a method of responding to a request, the request including one or more specifiers that

refer to one or more objects in a distributed database system that includes a plurality of database systems and

the method comprising the steps of:

receiving the request in a first database system of the plurality;

determining whether the request includes a specifier that cannot be interpreted in the first database system of the plurality of database systems; and

when the request includes such a specifier, causing the request to be executed at least in part in a second database system of the plurality.

125. (previously presented) Apparatus for caching copies of objects belonging to a subset of the objects belonging to a first database system that returns an object in response to a request therefor, the request including one or more specifiers referring to the objects and

the apparatus comprising:

a second database system that contains the copies; and

a redirector that responds to the request when the request includes a specifier that cannot be interpreted in the second database system by causing the request to be executed at least in part in the first database system, the request otherwise being executed in the second database system.

126. (previously amended) The apparatus in accordance with claim 125 wherein:

the apparatus is local to a server of the type that provides a program executing on the server with a standard interface for querying databases; and

- 4 the requests include queries received via the standard interface.
- 1 **127. (previously amended)** The apparatus in accordance with claim 126 wherein:
- 2 the server obeys the hypertext transfer protocol (http) and the program is a Web
- 3 application program.

1 **128. (previously amended)** A method of responding to a request that includes one or more
2 specifiers referring to one or more objects belonging to a set of objects where the objects
3 are stored in a first database system and copies of a subset of the set of objects are stored
4 in a second database system,
5 the method comprising the steps of:
6 receiving the request in the second database system;
7 determining whether the request includes a specifier that cannot be interpreted in the
8 second database system; and
9 when the request includes such a specifier, causing the request to be executed at least in
10 part in the first database system instead of in the second database system.

1 **129. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with claim 128 wherein:
2 the second database system is local to a server of the type that provides a program
3 executing on the server with a standard interface for querying databases; and
4 in the step of receiving the request, the request is received via the standard interface.

1 **130. (previously amended)** The method in accordance with claim 129 wherein:
2 the server obeys the hypertext transfer protocol (http) and the program is a Web
3 application program.

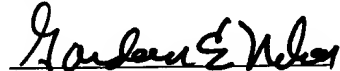
1 **131. (previously amended)** A memory device characterized in that:

2 the memory device contains code which, when executed in a processor, performs
3 a method of responding to a request that includes one or more specifiers referring to
4 objects belonging to a set of objects where the objects are stored in a first database system
5 and copies of a subset of the set of objects are stored in a second database system,
6 the method comprising the steps of:
7 receiving the request in the second database system;
8 determining whether the request includes a specifier that cannot be interpreted in
9 the second database system; and
10 when the request includes such a specifier, causing the request to be executed at
11 least in part in the first database system instead of in the second database system.

Conclusion

Applicants hereby amend their Response to non-final Office action mailed 4/13/2005 to include all claims in ascending numerical order to overcome Examiner's non-compliant amendment mail 4/21/05. No fees are believed to be required for this amendment. If any should be, please charge them to deposit account number 501315.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date


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